

## **Region 3 GPRA Baseline RCRA Corrective Action Facility**

# **Seaboard Lumber**

**Route 18 West  
Bridgeville, DE 19933  
Congressional District 1  
EPA ID #: DED057123648  
Last Updated 06/30/2005**

## **Current Progress at the Site**

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Delaware's Department of Natural Resources & Environmental Control (DNREC), Site Investigation & Restoration Branch ("Superfund") is currently evaluating remedial options in treating the creosote contaminated soil.

## **Site Description**

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Seaboard Lumber is a former small wood-treating facility located in rural Sussex County, 5 miles southwest of Bridgeville on State Route 18. The site occupies approximately 10 acres and is bounded by Route 18 to the north and wooded areas to the west, south and east. A few private residences exist adjacent to the entrance of the facility to the northeast and a resident lives to the west of the facility.

Seaboard Lumber used creosote in its wood treating operation, which operated from 1963 to 1986. As part of that operation, the facility operated an unlined lagoon, which received hazardous waste. DNREC issued a compliance order (85/HW-01) to stop discharging into the lagoon, remove free liquids, install groundwater monitoring wells and submit a closure plan. A closure plan was signed by DNREC and the facility on June 4, 1986, but uncertainty with the company's compliance with the closure plan (i.e. PE certification) remains.

The facility has been closed since 1986; since it was a small family owned operation with no other source of revenue, the site was eventually referred to Delaware's Site Investigation & Restoration Branch. In October 1991, Delaware's Superfund Office completed a Preliminary Assessment Report and submitted it to EPA Region III Site Inspection and Support Section (3HW13). EPA subsequently scored the site and the score was low such that it did not make the NPL list.

The Delaware Superfund office performed extensive soil sampling and groundwater testing (from existing monitoring wells) under the State's Hazardous Substance Cleanup Act (HSCA) to determine the extent of contamination at the closed facility over the period of October 1996 to February 1997. The results of that investigation showed creosote contamination in the soil, with the highest concentrations in the open area to the east-northeast of the facility. This contamination is in the former tram track and the treated wood storage area for the facility. Groundwater continued to show contamination in well MW-3 (monitoring well near the former Plant Area), but no contamination in the one residential well east of the plant area.

The Delaware Superfund office performed additional soil investigation in 1998 to further defined the extent of contamination. In March 1999, in order to delineate the area containing free product, 13 temporary 1" diameter wells to screen the water table surface were installed. Also, the former lagoon was investigated by excavating test pits. Due to the depth of the encountered product (creosote) and the indicated ground water flow direction, DNREC contacted the residence on the west side of the facility. On March 25, 1999, the residence wells (Pitman) were sampled. No volatile or semi-volatile organic compounds were found.

In January 2000, an expanded direct push ground water sampling event to characterize ground water in the down-gradient direction (parallel to the ditch) at depth-discrete intervals was performed. In February and March 2000, four (4) additional monitoring wells were installed between the site and the Pitman (residential) wells. Periodic and regular sampling of the wells will continue in order to monitor the groundwater.

During August 2001, EPA Superfund and DNREC were evaluating the levels of contamination in soil for possible removal action under the Federal Superfund program.

In response to a request from DNREC, the US EPA evaluated data and information from the remedial investigation report and subsequent investigations to determine whether the site was a candidate for emergency removal under CERCLA. In 2002, the EPA reported to DNREC that the site does not pose an imminent and substantial threat to public health. The ATSDR assisted with this evaluation.

## **Site Responsibility**

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This site is being addressed by the DNREC Superfund Program.

## **Contaminants**

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The main contaminants in the groundwater, soils and sediments are polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs).

## **Institutional Controls**

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No institutional controls are currently in place.

## **Government Contacts**

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For more information about EPA's corrective action webpage, including Environmental Indicators, please visit our site at: [www.epa.gov/reg3wcmd/correctiveaction.htm](http://www.epa.gov/reg3wcmd/correctiveaction.htm)